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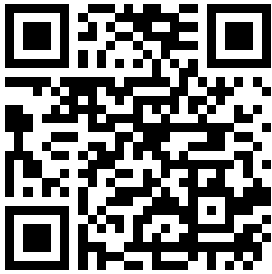
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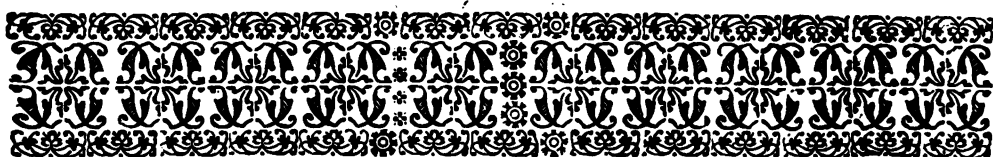
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C O P Y
O F T H E
C H A R T E R
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C O R P O R A T I O N
O F T H E
Governor and Company
O F T H E
B A N K o f E N G L A N D.

Printed in the Year 1727.

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A C O P Y
O F T H E
C H A R T E R
O F T H E
C O R P O R A T I O N
O F T H E
*Governor and Company of the Bank
of England.*



VILLIAM and MARY, by the Grace of God,
King and Queen of *England, Scotland, France, and
Ireland*, Defenders of the Faith, &c. To all to whom
these Presents shall come, Greeting. Whereas in and
by a certain Act, lately made in Parliament, Entituled,
An Act for Granting to their Majesties several Rates and
Duties upon Tonnage of Ships and Vessels, and upon Beer, Ale, and
other Liquors, for securing certain Recompences and Advantages, in
the said Act mentioned, to such Persons as shall voluntarily advance
the Sum of Fifteen Hundred Thousand Pounds, towards carrying on
the War against *France*; It is amongst other Things enacted, That for
and during the Term of Four Years, commencing from the first Day
of *June*, in the Year of our Lord 1694. there should be throughout
the Kingdom of *England*, Dominion of *Wales*, and Town of *Ber-*
wick upon *Tweed*, raised, levyed, collected and paid for and upon the
Tonnage of all Ships and Vessels, wherein at any Time or Times,
and for every Time during the said Term of Four Years, there should
be imported any Goods or Merchandizes into this Kingdom of *En-*
gland,

Recital of the
Act 5th & 6th
Will. & Mary,
Chap. 20. Page
323.
P. 324.

P. 332.

P. 336.

P. 339.

gland, Dominion of *Wales*, or Town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, from any Parts, Places or Countries, in the said Act mentioned, and wherein, during the said Term, there should be carried Coastwise from any Port, Member or Creek, in the Kingdom of *England*, Dominion of *Wales*, or Town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, unto any other Port, Creek or Member within the same Kingdom, Dominion, Port, or Town, the several and respective Rates, Impositions, Duties and Sums of Money, in the said Act mentioned. And that from and after the seventeenth Day of *May*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord God 1697. there shall be throughout the said Kingdom of *England*, Dominion of *Wales*, and Town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, raised, levyed, collected and paid unto Us, our Heirs and Successors, for Beer, Ale, Syder, and other Liquors, certain additional Rates or Duties of Excise, in the said Act particularly expressed, and that Weekly, to wit, on *Wednesday* in every Week, if it be not an Holiday, and if it be, then the next Day after that is not an Holiday, all and every the Monies arising by the Rates and Duties, by the said Act granted, should be paid into the Receipt of the Exchequer, under certain Penalties therein mentioned. And that yearly and every Year, reckoning the first Year to begin from the first Day of *June*, in the Year of our Lord 1694. the full Sum of One Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds, by or out of the said Monies to arise by the said several Duties upon the Tonnage of Ships and Vessels, and by the said Rates and Duties of Excise, or any of them, and to be brought into the Receipt of the Exchequer by weekly Payments as aforesaid, in case the said weekly Payments shall extend thereunto, should be the whole and entire yearly Fond: And in case the said weekly Payments should not amount to One Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds *per Ann.* then the said weekly Monies, or Payments, so far as the same will extend, should be part of the yearly Fond for and towards the answering and paying of the several Annuities, and other Purposes in the said Act expressed: And in case the said Duties upon the Tonnage of Ships and Vessels, and the said Rates and Duties of Excise, or any of them, should at any Time or Times, appear to be so deficient or low in the Produce of the same, as that within any one Year to be reckoned as aforesaid, the weekly Payments upon the said Rates or Duties, or any of them, shall not amount to so much as One Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds, or to so much as shall be sufficient to discharge and satisfy the said several and respective Annuities, and other Benefits or Advantages, by the said Act intended or appointed to be paid within or for the same Year respectively. That then, and so often, and in every such Case, the Commissioners of our Treasury, and the Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer now being, and the Treasurer and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer, or Commissioners of the Treasury for the Time being, are thereby strictly enjoined and required, by Virtue of the said Act, and without any further or other Warrant to be sued for, had or obtained from Us, our Heirs or Successors in this behalf, to cause every such Deficiency to be made good, by applying, issuing or paying so much of any Treasure or Revenue belonging or to belong unto Us, our Heirs or Successors, not being appropriated to any particular Use or Uses, by any Act or Acts of Parliament, towards the discharging or paying of the said Annuities, or other Benefits or Advantages,

ges, appointed to be paid by the said Act, as together with the Monies which shall have been brought into the said Receipt, of or for the said several Rates or Duties, shall be sufficient to pay off and discharge, and shall compleatly pay off and discharge all the Monies which within the same Year respectively shall be grown due, or ought to be paid upon the said Annuities, or other Benefits or Advantages, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the said Act. And P. 341. it is thereby further Enacted, That it should and might be lawful to and for Us, by Commission under the Great Seal of *England*, to authorize and appoint any Number of Persons to take and receive all such voluntary Subscriptions, as should be made on or before the first Day of *August*, in the Year of our Lord 1694. by any Person or Persons, Natives or Foreigners, Bodies Politick or Corporate, for and towards the raising and paying into the Receipt of the Exchequer, the Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds, Part of the Sum of Fifteen Hundred Thousand Pounds, in the said Act mentioned; and that the yearly Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, Part of the said yearly Sum of One Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds, arising by and out of the Duties and Impositions aforementioned, should be applied, issued, and directed, and is thereby appropriated to the Use and Advantage of such Person and Persons, Bodies Politick and Corporate, as should make such voluntary Subscriptions and Payments, their Heirs, Successors or Assignees. And that each weekly or other Payment, arising by and out of the said Duties and Impositions, should by the Auditor of the Receipt of the Exchequer from Time to Time, as the same shall be paid in, be separated and divided into five seventh Parts, and two seventh Parts, and that the said five seventh Parts of the said several Payments, arising by and out of the Duties and Impositions aforesaid, and so set apart, shall be appropriated for and towards the Payment and Satisfaction of the said yearly Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, and shall from Time to Time be issued and paid, as the same shall come into the said Receipt of Exchequer, to the Uses and Advantages of such Subscribers and Contributors, their Heirs, Successors, or Assignees, as should subscribe and contribute for and towards the raising and paying into the said Receipt of Exchequer, the said Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds. And that it should and might be lawful for P. 343. Us, by Letters Patents under the Great Seal of *England*, to limit, direct and appoint how and in what Manner and Proportions; and under what Rules and Directions the said Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds, Part of the said Sum of Fifteen Hundred Thousand Pounds, and the said yearly Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, Part of the said yearly Sum of One Hundred and Forty Thousand Pounds, and every or any Part or Proportion thereof, may be assignable or transferable, assigned or transferred to such Person or Persons only, as shall freely and voluntarily accept of the same, and not otherwise; and to Incorporate all and every such Subscribers and Contributors, their Heirs, Successors, or Assignees, to be one Body Corporate and Politick, by the Name of, *The Governor and Company of the Bank of England*, to have perpetual Succession, and with such Privileges and Powers, and to be under such Rules as are therein mentioned; subject nevertheless to a certain Proviso or Condition of Redemption in the said Act contained. And it is thereby further Enacted, That in Case the said whole Sum of P. 344.

P. 346.

P. 348;

P. 361;

Recital of the
Commission.

Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds shall not be advanced and paid into the Receipt of the Exchequer before the First Day of *January*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety and Four, that then the Subscribers and Contributors for and towards the raising and paying the said Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds, Part of the said Sum of Fifteen Hundred Thousand Pounds, their Heirs, Successors, and Assignees, shall only have and receive so much, and such Part and Proportion to the said Sum and Sums so respectively paid and advanced, as shall be after the Rate of Eight Pounds *per Cent. per Annum*. And for the better and more speedy Payment of the said yearly Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, the Commissioners of our Treasury, and the Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer now being, and the High-Treasurer and Under-Treasurer or Commissioners of the Treasury for the Time being, are thereby strictly enjoined and required by Virtue of the said Act, and without any further or other Warrant to be sued for, had or obtained from Us, our Heirs, or Successors, to direct their Warrants yearly for the Payment of the said yearly Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds to the Contributors of the said Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds, in such Manner and Proportions as are therein directed and appointed, and the Auditor of the Receipt of our Exchequer, and all other Officers of the Exchequer now, and for the Time being, are thereby directed and enjoined to issue the said Monies so set apart for the Uses aforementioned, from Time to Time, without any Fee or Reward, and under such Penalties as are by the said Act to be inflicted. And in the said Act is contained a Proviso, That in Case the whole Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds, or a Moiety thereof should not be subscribed on or before the first Day of *August*, One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Four, aforesaid, That then the Powers and Authorities in the said Act, for erecting a Corporation as aforesaid, should cease and determine. And it is further enacted, That any Monies payable to any Person or Persons upon or by Virtue of the said Act, shall not be charged or chargeable with any Rates, Duties, or Impositions whatsoever, as in and by the said Act of Parliament (amongst divers other Matters and Things therein contained, relation being thereunto had) may more fully appear. And whereas, in pursuance of the said Act, we did, by our Commission, or Letters Patents, under the Great Seal of *England*, bearing Date at *Westminster*, the fifteenth Day of *June* now last past, nominate, constitute, authorize and appoint our trusty and well-beloved Sir *William Ashbursht*, Knight, Mayor of our City of *London*, &c. [*Here follows the Names of the Commissioners*] to be our Commissioners, to take and receive all such voluntary Subscriptions as should be made on or before the said first Day of *August*, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Four, by any Person or Persons, Natives or Foreigners, or by or for any Body Politick or Corporate for or towards the raising and paying the said Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds, Part of the said Sum of Fifteen Hundred Thousand Pounds, in the said Act mentioned, with Power and Direction to them, or such or so many of them as are thereby authorized and appointed to take such Subscriptions, and to do and perform such Matters and Things in relation thereunto, as are thereby enjoined. And we did in and by the same, promise and declare, that
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in case the whole Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds, or the Moiety or any greater Part thereof should be subscribed on the said Act, or in pursuance of the said Commission, on or before the said first Day of *August* then next ensuing, that then We, our Heirs or Successors, should and would immediately after the said first Day of *August*, or so soon as Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds should be subscribed as aforesaid, (which of them should first happen) grant and make forth our Royal Charter, or Letters Patents, under the Great Seal of *England*, and thereby incorporate all and every such Subscribers and Contributors, who should be then living, and who should not have assigned their Interest in their said Subscriptions; and in case any of them should be dead, the Heirs of such Subscribers; and in case any of the said Subscribers should have assigned their Interest in their said Subscriptions, in all such Cases the Assignees of such Subscribers to be one Body Corporate and Politick, by the Name of, *The Governor and Company of the Bank of England*, with such Powers, Capacities, Privileges, Benefits, Liberties and Advantages, and under and subject to such Rules, Restrictions, Power of Redemption, Provisoos, Limitations and Clauses as are therein mentioned or referred unto. And we did thereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, declare, limit, direct and appoint, That the whole Sum or Amount of all and every the Sum and Sums of Money as should be subscribed and paid as aforesaid, should be, and be called, accepted, esteemed, reputed, and taken a Common Capital and Principal Stock, and all and every Person and Persons, his, her and their Heirs, Successors and Assignees, according and in Proportion to the Sum or Sums of Money, by him, her, or them respectively subscribed and paid thereunto, should have, and be deemed to have an Interest or Share in the said Principal Stock, and of and in the yearly Fond, granted by the said Act of Parliament as aforesaid, and that such Interest or Share, or any Part thereof, should be assignable and transferrable, and should and might be assigned and transferred by any Person or Persons intituled thereunto, to any other Person or Persons, and so over as fully and effectually as any other Interest whatsoever is by Law assignable, so as such Assignments or Transferrances should be made in Writing, and be entred or registred in such manner as is hereafter mentioned, (that is to say) all Assignments or Transferrances which should be made on or before the said first Day of *August* next ensuing, or the full and compleat Subscribing of the said ~~Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds~~ (which should first happen) and before the granting of these Presents, were thereby directed to be entered or registered in the Office of the Auditor of the Receipt of our Exchequer, within six Days after the making of the said respective Assignments; and all Assignments or Transferrances which should be made after the granting of this our Charter of Incorporation should be made, entered and registred in such Form as should be prescribed in these Presents. And in the said Commission are contained several other Powers, Directions, Agreements, Clauses, Matters and Things, as in and by the same, relation being thereunto had, more fully and at large appears. And whereas it appears by Du- Recital of the
plicates transmitted into the Office of the Auditor of the Receipt of our Duplicates
Exchequer, under the Hands and Seals of Five or more of our said transmitted
Commissioners, being a competent and sufficient Number for that purpose, into the Audi-
and made in pursuance of our Directions in the said Commission con- tor's Office.
tained,

Incorporating
Clause.

tained, that several Sums amounting in the whole to the Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds, have been subscribed, and the first fourth Part thereof paid to our said Commissioners, or some of them, pursuant to the said Act of Parliament, on or before the second Day of *January* last past, by or for Sir *William Ashburst*, Knight, Mayor of our City of *London*, &c. [*Here follows the Names of the several Subscribers.*] Now know ye, That we being desirous to promote the publick Good and Benefit of our People, which in these Presents are chiefly designed and intended, as well as the Profit and Advantage of all such as have subscribed and contributed according to the said Act of Parliament, and our said Commission thereupon issued, their Heirs, Successors, and Assignees respectively, and in pursuance as well of the Powers and Clauses for this Purpose, contained in the said Act of Parliament, as of our gracious Promise and Declaration, made in or by our said Commission, or Letters Patents, under the Great Seal of *England*, whereby the Subscriptions and Contributions on the said Act have been promoted or encouraged, and by Virtue of our Prerogative Royal, and likewise of our especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and meer Motion, *Have* given, granted, made, ordained, constituted, declared, appointed, and established, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, *do* give, grant, make, ordain, constitute, declare, appoint and establish, that the said Sir *William Ashburst*, &c. [*Here the Names of the said several Subscribers are repeated*] and all and every other Person and Persons, Natives and Foreigners, Bodies Politick or Corporate, who, over and above the Persons before especially named, have at any Time or Times before the making of these Presents, subscribed and contributed any Sum or Sums of Money towards the said Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds so subscribed, pursuant to the said Act, and our said Commission, and have paid the fourth Part thereof upon their said Subscriptions, and who are now living or existent, and have not assigned their Interest in the said Subscriptions; and all and every the Heirs and Successors of any of the said original Subscribers, who are now dead, and have not in their Life-times assigned their Interests in the said Subscriptions, and the Heirs and Successors of such of the said Assignees who are now dead, and did not in their Life-times assign or depart with their Interest in the said Stock and annual Fond, and all and every Person and Persons, Natives or Foreigners, Bodies Politick and Corporate, who, either as original Subscribers of the said Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds so subscribed, and not having parted with their Interests in their Subscriptions, or, as Heirs, Successors, or Assignees, or by any other lawful Title derived, or to be derived from, by, or under the said original Subscribers of the said Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds so subscribed, or any of them now have, or at any Time or Times hereafter shall have, or be entituled to any Part, Share, or Interest of or in the Principal or Capital Stock of the said Corporation, or the said yearly Fond of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, granted by the said Act of Parliament, or any Part thereof, so long as they respectively shall have any such Part, Share, or Interest therein, shall be, and be called one Body Politick and Corporate, of themselves, in Deed and in Name, by the Name of, *The Governor and Company of the Bank of England*; and them by that Name, one Body Politick and Corporate, in Deed and in Name, We do, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, make

make, create, erect, establish, and confirm for ever, by these Presents; and by the same Name, they and their Successors shall have perpetual Succession, and shall and may have and use a Common Seal, for the Use, Business, or Affairs of the said Body Politick and Corporate, and their Successors, with Power to break, alter, and to make anew their Seal from Time to Time, at their Pleasure, and as they shall see Cause.

And by the same Name, they and their Successors in all Times coming, shall be able and capable in Law, to have, take, purchase, receive, hold, keep, possess, enjoy, and retain to them and their Successors, any

Manors, Messuages, Lands, Rents, Tenements, Liberties, Privileges, Franchises, Hereditaments, and Possessions whatsoever, and of what Kind, Nature, or Quality soever; and moreover, to purchase and acquire all Goods and Chattels whatsoever, wherein they are not restrained by the said Act; and also to sell, grant, demise, alien, and dispose of the same Manors, Messuages, Lands, Rents, Tenements, Privileges, Franchises, Hereditaments, Possessions, Goods, and Chattels, or any of them.

And by the same Name, they and their Successors shall and may sue and implead, and be sued and impleaded, answer and defend, and be answered and defended in Courts of Record, or any other Place whatsoever, and before whatsoever Judges, Justices, Officers and Ministers of Us, our Heirs, and Successors; and in all and singular Pleas, Actions, Suits, Causes and Demands whatsoever, of what Kind, Nature, or Sort soever, and in as large, ample, and beneficial Manner and Form as any other Body Politick and Corporate, or any other the Liege People of *England*, or other our Dominions, being Persons able and capable in Law, may or can have, take, purchase, receive, hold, keep, possess, enjoy, sell, grant, demise, alien, dispose, sue, implead, defend, or answer, or be sued, impleaded, defended or answered in any manner of wise, and shall and may do and execute all and singular other Matters and Things by the Name aforesaid, that to them shall or may appertain to do, by

Virtue of the said Act or otherwise; subject nevertheless to the Provision and Condition of Redemption, in the said Act mentioned. And to all and every other Clauses, Provisions and Conditions in the said Act contained. And we do hereby declare that all Persons, having any Interest or Part in the Capital Stock or Fond of the said Corporation, either as original Subscribers, or by Assignments, or as Heirs, or otherwise, shall be, and be esteemed Members of the said Corporation, and shall be admitted into the same without any Fee or Charge whatsoever.

And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, declare, limit, direct and appoint, that the aforesaid Sum of Twelve Hundred Thousand Pounds so subscribed as aforesaid, shall be, and be called, accepted, esteemed, reputed and taken, *The Common Capital and Principal Stock of the Corporation hereby constituted.* And all and every Person and Persons, his, her, and their Heirs, Successors and Assignees, according and in Proportion to the Sum or Sums of Money by him, her, or them respectively subscribed as aforesaid, shall have, and be deemed to have an Interest or Share in the said principal Stock, and of and in the yearly Fond of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, granted by the said Act of Parliament. And we do hereby, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, authorize, enjoin and require the Commissioners of our Treasury, and Under-Treasurer of our Exchequer now being, and the High Treasurer, Commissioners of the Treasury, and Under-Treasurer of Us,

our

our Heirs and Successors for the time being, without any further or other Warrant to be had, or obtained from Us, our Heirs or Successors, to direct their Warrants and Orders, according to the said Act, for the Payment of the said yearly Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, by, and out of the five seventh Parts (the Whole into seven equal Parts to be divided) of the Monies arising by the Rates and Duties granted by the said Act, and thereby appointed to be kept apart for the Payment of the said yearly Fond of One Hundred Thousand Pounds to the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Successors for ever, under and subject nevertheless to the Payment of the Issues, Fines, Amerciaments, and Debts upon Judgments against the said Corporation, according to the Purport of the said Act. The first Year to be reckoned to begin from the first Day of *June*, in the Year of our Lord Christ, One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Four; and we do hereby direct and enjoin the Commissioners of our Treasury, and the Treasurer, Commissioners of the Treasury, and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer, and the Auditor of the Receipt of our Exchequer, and all other the Officers of the Exchequer, of Us, our Heirs and Successors, now, and for the Time being, from Time to Time, to issue and pay the said five seventh Parts of the Monies arising by the Duties granted by the said Act, or so much thereof as shall be sufficient for this Purpose, to the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Successors, by weekly Payments, or otherwise, as the same, or any Part thereof, shall from Time to Time come into the Receipt of the Exchequer, for and towards Satisfaction of the said yearly Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds. And in case five seventh Parts of the said weekly Payments, in the said Act mentioned, and intended to be the yearly Fond for the Recompence of the said Subscribers, shall not amount unto so much as the yearly Sum of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, which is the annual Fond thereby establish'd for the said Corporation to receive; then we do hereby, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant and agree to and with the said Governor and Company, and their Successors, that five seventh Parts of the said weekly Monies or Payments, so far as the same will extend, shall be Part of the said yearly Fond of One Hundred Thousand Pounds; and in case the said Duties, by the said Act granted, or any of them, shall at any Time or Times appear to be so deficient or low in the Produce of the same, as that within any one Year, to be reckoned from the first Day of *June*, as aforesaid, five seventh Parts of the weekly Payments upon the same Rates and Duties, or any of them, shall not amount to so much as One Hundred Thousand Pounds within, or for the same Year respectively, that then, and so often, and in every such Case, we do hereby authorize, enjoin, and require the Commissioners of our Treasury, and the Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer now being, and the Treasurer and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer, or Commissioners of the Treasury for the Time being, of Us, our Heirs and Successors, forthwith, and without any further or other Warrant to be sued for, had or obtained from Us, our Heirs or Successors in that behalf, to cause every such Deficiency to be made good, by applying, issuing, or paying so much of any Treasure or Revenue, belonging or to belong to Us, our Heirs or Successors, (not being appropriated to any particular Use or Uses, by any Act or Acts of Parliament) towards the discharging or pay-

paying of the said yearly Fond of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, as together with five seventh Parts of the Monies which shall have been brought into the Receipt of the Exchequer, of or for the said several Rates or Duties by the said Act granted, shall be sufficient to pay off and discharge, and shall compleatly pay off and discharge the said yearly Fond of One Hundred Thousand Pounds, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the said Act, and of these Presents. And for the better ordering, managing, and governing the Stock, and other Affairs of the said Corporation, and for the making and establishing a continual Succession of Persons to be Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors of the said Corporation; we do by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant unto the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Successors, and do hereby ordain and appoint, that there shall be from Time to Time for ever, (of the Members of the said Company) a Governor, a Deputy-Governor, and Twenty Four Directors of, and in the said Corporation; which Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, or any thirteen or more of them (of which the Governor or Deputy-Governor to be always one) shall be, and be called a Court of Directors for the ordering, managing, and directing the Affairs of the said Corporation, and shall have such Powers and Privileges as are herein after mentioned. *And we* do hereby nominate, constitute, ordain and appoint, that Sir *John Houblon*, Knight, who is chosen for this Purpose by a Majority of the said Subscribers, *having Five Hundred Pounds* each in the said Capital Stock, pursuant to certain Clauses in our said Commission contained, shall be the present, and first Governor. And that *Michael Godfrey*, Esq; who is chosen in like Manner, shall be the present, and first Deputy-Governor. And that Sir *John Huband*, Bar^r. Sir *James Houblon*, Sir *William Gore*, Sir *William Scawen*, Sir *Henry Furnese*, Sir *Thomas Abney*, Sir *William Hedges*, Kn^{ts}. *Brook Bridges*, *James Bateman*, *George Boddington*, *Edward Clerke*, *James Denew*, *Thomas Goddard*, *Abraham Houblon*, *Gilbert Heatcote*, *Theodore Janssen*, *John Lordell*, *Samuel Letbioullier*, *William Paterson*, *Robert Raworth*, *John Smith of Beaufort Building*, *Obadiab Sedgwick*, *Nathaniel Tench*, and *John Ward*, Esqs; who are severally chosen in like Manner, by a Majority of like Subscribers, shall be the present, and first Directors of the said Corporation. And the said Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, shall continue in their respective Offices until the twenty fifth Day of *March*, which shall be in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Six, and until others shall be duly chosen in their respective Offices, and sworn into the same, unless they, or any of them, shall sooner die, or be removed, as is herein after mentioned. *And we* do further by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, give and grant unto the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*; and we do hereby ordain, will, and appoint, that it shall and may be lawful to and for all and every the Members of the said Corporation, or Body Politick, from Time to Time, to assemble and meet together at any convenient Place or Places for the Choice of their Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, and for the making of By-Laws, Ordinances, Rules, Orders or Directions for the Government of the said Corporation, and for any other Affairs or Business concerning the same, publick Notice thereof being first given by Writing,

The Constitution of the Company.

First Governor.

First Deputy Governor.

First Twenty Four Directors

Continuance in their Offices.

Power to assemble.

Notice of General Courts.

Election of
succeeding
Governor, De-
puty-Governor,
and Directors.

In case of
Death.

Governor ab-
sent.

Qualification
of Electors.

Oath of Elec-
tors.

None to have
above one
Vote.

ting, to be affixed upon the *Royal Exchange* in *London*, two Days at least before the Time appointed for such Meeting. And that all the Members of the said Corporation, or so many of them as shall be so assembled, shall be, and be called a General Court of the said Corporation, which Court shall meet and assemble at such Times, and in such Manner as herein after is directed. And that all succeeding Governors, Deputy-Governors, and Directors of the said Corporation, shall from and after the five and twentieth Day of *March*, in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Six, be yearly and successively chosen for ever, out of the Members of the said Corporation, on some Day, or Days, or Times, between the five and twentieth Day of *March*, and the twenty fifth Day of *April* in each Year, by the Majority of Votes of all and every the Members of the said Corporation, having then each of them in their own Right Five Hundred Pounds, or more, Share or Interest in the said Capital Stock and Fond of the said Corporation, and who shall be personally present at such Elections, each of them to have and give one Vote, and no more; which succeeding Governors, Deputy-Governors, and Directors so chosen, shall severally and respectively continue in their respective Offices to which they shall be severally elected for one Year, and till others shall be duly chosen and sworn into their Places respectively. *Provided* nevertheless, that in case of Death, Avoidance, or Removal of the Governor, Deputy-Governor, or any of the Directors of the said Corporation for the Time being, the Survivors of them, or the Majority of those remaining in their Office, shall and may at any Time assemble together the Members of the said Corporation, in order to elect other Persons, by Members qualified to vote in Manner aforesaid, in the Room of those dead, removed, or avoided; *And* that every Deputy-Governor (in the Absence of the Governor) shall have the same Power as a Governor. *Provided* nevertheless, and we do hereby will, ordain, constitute, appoint, and command, that no Person or Persons shall be, or be esteemed, qualified, or capable to be an Elector to vote, or shall give any Vote at any General Court, or otherwise, for an Election of Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Directors, or any of them, or for or concerning the making of By-Laws, or in any other Matters relating to the Affairs or Government of the said Corporation, who shall not at the Time of such General Court, have in his, her, or their Name and Right, and for his, her, or their own Use, and not in Trust for any other, Five Hundred Pounds or more, Share or Interest in the said Capital Stock of the said Corporation: And who also shall not at the Time of holding any such General Court, take the Oath hereafter mentioned, if required thereunto by any Member or Members of the said Corporation then present, having each Five Hundred Pounds Share or Interest, at least, in the said Capital Stock, before the Governor, or Deputy-Governor, or any two or more of the Directors of the said Corporation; viz. *I A. B. do swear, that the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds, or more, of the Capital Stock of the Body Politick, called by the Name of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, doth at this Time belong to me in my own Right, and not in Trust for any other Person or Persons whatsoever.* And we do hereby constitute, ordain, and appoint, That no one Member of the said Corporation, shall in any Election of Governor, Deputy-

puty-Governor, Director or other Officer of the said Corporation, or in any the Business or Affairs of the said Corporation, have, or give any more than one Vote, whatever his Share or Interest in the said Capital Stock shall be. *Provided* nevertheless, that any Person or Persons, ^{Provide for Quakers.} commonly called, or known to be Quakers, who at the Time of holding such General Court, as aforesaid, shall have Five Hundred Pounds Interest or Share, or more, in the said Capital Stock, and shall then (if thereunto required by any Member or Members of the said Corporation then present, having each Five Hundred Pounds Share or Interest, at least, in the said Capital Stock) make and sign the following Declaration, to wit; *I A. B. do sincerely and solemnly declare in the Presence of God, that the Sum of Five Hundred Pounds, or more, of the Capital Stock of the Body Politick, called by the Name of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, doth at this Time belong to me, in my own Right, and not in Trust for any other Person or Persons whatsoever,* shall be capable of having a Vote at any General Court of the said Corporation. *And we do*, by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, give full Power and Authority to the Governor, or Deputy-Governor, or any two or more of the Directors of the said Corporation for the Time being, to give and administer the said Oath and Declaration to the said Members; and do hereby order and direct them to administer the same accordingly. *Provided* further, and we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, constitute, ordain, and appoint, that no Person shall at any Time be capable of being chosen a Governor of the said Corporation, unless he shall at the Time of such Election, be a natural-born Subject of *England*, or naturalized; and shall also then have in his own Name, in his own Right, and for his own Use, Four Thousand Pounds or more, in the Capital Stock of the said Corporation. And that no Person shall at any Time be capable of being chosen Deputy-Governor of the said Corporation, unless he shall at the Time of such Election, be a natural-born Subject of *England*, or naturalized, and shall then also have in his own Name, in his own Right, and for his own Use, Three Thousand Pounds, or more, in the Capital Stock of the said Corporation. And that no Person shall be capable of being chosen a Director of the said Corporation, who shall not at the Time of such Choice be a natural-born Subject of *England*, or naturalized; and shall also then have in his own Name, in his own Right, and for his own Use, Two Thousand Pounds or more in the said Capital Stock. And that no Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Directors, shall continue in his or their respective Offices, longer than the Continuance of such their respective Interests and Stocks, in their own Names and Rights, and to their own Uses respectively; but upon parting with, or reducing his or their respective Share or Interest in the said Capital Stock, to any lesser Sum or Sums than as aforesaid, the said respective Offices or Places of such Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Directors, so parting with, reducing or diminishing their said Shares, or Interests, as aforesaid, shall cease, determine, and become vacant, and others to be chosen in their Rooms, by a General Court of the said Corporation. *Provided* also, and we do by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, will, ordain, and appoint, that the said Sir *John Houblon*, hereby nominated to be the first Governor, or any Person hereafter to be chosen to the said Office or Trust of Governor of the

Oath of Allegiance.

Oath for Stock

Oath to the Company.

Oaths to first Governor to be administered by the Lord Keeper, Chancellor of the Exchequer, Chief Baron. Oath to succeeding Governors, how administered.

The like Oaths for the Deputy-Governor.

How administered.

Oath to succeeding Deputy-Governors, how administered.

the said Corporation, shall not be capable of executing or acting in the said Office or Trust of Governor at any Time, until he respectively shall have taken the Oaths appointed to be taken by an Act made in the first Year of our Reign, Entituled, *An Act for the abrogating of the Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance, and appointing other Oaths*; and shall not be capable of executing of, or acting in the said Office or Trust of Governor at any Time or Times hereafter, until he respectively shall have taken the Corporal Oath following, to wit, *I A. B. do swear, that the Sum of Four Thousand Pounds of the Capital Stock of the Body Politick, called by the Name of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, whereof I am appointed or elected to be Governor, doth at this Time belong to me in my own Right, and not in Trust for any other Person or Persons whatsoever*: And likewise another Oath in the Form, or to the Effect following, that is to say, *I A. B. being nominated or elected to be Governor of the Company of the Bank of England, do promise and swear, that I will to the utmost of my Power, by all lawful Ways and Means, endeavour to support and maintain the Body Politick, or Fellowship of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, and the Liberties and Privileges thereof; and that in the Execution of the said Office of Governor, I will faithfully and honestly demean my self, according to the best of my Skill and Understanding*. So help me God. Which Oaths to the first and present Governor above-named, shall and may be administered by the Keeper of our Great Seal of *England*, or by the Chancellor of our Exchequer, or Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, or any of them for the Time being. And to any future Governor, shall and may be administered by the Chancellor of *England*, or Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, or by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, of Us, our Heirs or Successors, for the Time being, or by the Governor, or Deputy-Governor of the said Corporation, for the last preceding Year; or, (in case a Deputy-Governor shall be then sworn into his Office) then by such Deputy-Governor. And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, direct, authorize, and appoint the Chancellor of *England*, and Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, or any of them for the Time being, or such preceding Governor, or preceding Deputy-Governor, or such Deputy-Governor, so qualified as aforesaid, to administer the said Oaths to every or any such Person appointed or elected to be Governor of the said Corporation, as aforesaid. *Provided* also, and we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, will, ordain, and appoint, that the said *Michael Godfrey*, hereby nominated, constituted, and appointed to be the first Deputy-Governor, or any Person hereafter to be chosen to the Office or Trust of Deputy-Governor of the said Corporation, shall not be capable of executing or acting in the said Office or Trust of Deputy-Governor, until he shall have taken the like Oaths, *mutatis mutandis*, as are before prescribed to be taken by the Governor. Which Oaths, to the first Deputy-Governor abovenamed, shall and may be administered by the Keeper of our Great Seal of *England*, or by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, or by the first Governor of the said Corporation, after himself shall be first sworn, as aforesaid. And to any future Deputy-Governor, shall and may be administered by the

the Chancellor of *England*, or Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, or by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, of Us, our Heirs or Successors, for the Time being, or by the Governor, or Deputy-Governor of the said Corporation, for the preceding Year. And they are hereby respectively authorized and directed to administer the said Oaths to any Deputy-Governor accordingly. *Provided* also, and we do by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, will, ordain, and appoint, that none of the said Sir ^{Oath of Directors.} John Huband, Bar^t. Sir James Houblon, Sir William Gore, Sir William Scawen, Sir Henry Farnese, Sir Thomas Abney, Sir William Hedges, Kn^t. Brook Bridges, James Bateman, George Boddington, Edward Clerke, James Deneu, Thomas Goddard, Abraham Houblon, Gilbert Heathcote, Theodore Janssen, John Lordell, Samuel Letbi-eullier, William Paterson, Robert Raworth, John Smith of Beaufort Buildings, Obadiab Sedgwick, Nathaniel Tench, and John Ward, Esqs; hereby nominated, constituted, and appointed to be the first Twenty Four Directors of the said Corporation, or any other Person or Persons hereafter to be chosen to the Office or Trust of a Director of the said Corporation, shall be capable to execute or act in the said Office of a Director, until he or they shall respectively have taken the Oaths mentioned and appointed in and by one Act made in the first Year of our Reign, Entituled, *An Act for the abrogating of the Oaths of Su-* ^{Oath of Allegiance.} premacy and Allegiance, and appointing other Oaths, nor shall be capable to execute or act in the said Office or Trust of a Director, at any Time or Times hereafter, until he or they respectively shall have taken the Corporal Oath following, to wit, *I A. B. do swear, that the Sum* ^{Oath for Stock} *of Two Thousand Pounds of the Capital Stock of the Body Politick, called by the Name of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, whereof I am appointed or elected to be a Director, doth at this Time belong to me, in my own Right, and not in Trust for any other Person or Persons whatsoever.* And likewise another Oath, in the Form, or to the Effect following, *viz. I A. B. do swear, that in the* ^{Oath to the Company.} *Office of a Director of the Corporation or Company of the Bank of England, I will be indifferent and equal to all manner of Persons; and I will give my best Advice and Assistance, for the Support and good Government of the said Corporation. And in the Execution of the said Office of Director, I will faithfully and honestly demean my self, according to the best of my Skill and Understanding.* So help me God. Which Oaths to the first Twenty Four Directors herein nominated, and every of them respectively, shall and may be administered by the said Keeper of our Great Seal of *England*, or by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or Chief Baron of our Court of Exchequer, or by the first Governor, or Deputy-Governor herein before-named, so as such first Governor, or Deputy-Governor, (in case they, or either of them, do administer the said Oaths to the said Directors, or any of them) be first sworn, as is before mentioned. And the said Oaths, to any future Di- <sup>How admini-
stred to the
first Directors.</sup> rector or Directors, shall and may be administered by the Chancellor of *England*, or Keeper of the Great Seal of *England*, or by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, of Us, our Heirs or Successors, for the Time being, or any of them, or by a sworn Governor, or Deputy-Governor of the said Corporation, for the Time being, or by the Governor or Deputy-Governor for the pre-

preceding Year ; and they are hereby authorized and required, to administer the said Oaths to all and every such Director and Directors, from Time to Time accordingly. *Provided* also, and we do by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, will, ordain, and appoint, that all and every the other Members of the said Corporation, having each Five Hundred Pounds or more, Interest or Share in the Capital Stock of the said Corporation, before he or they severally shall be capable to give any Vote in any General Court to be held for the said Corporation, shall take the said Oaths appointed in and by the said Act of Parliament made in the first Year of our Reign, Entituled, *An Act for the abrogating of the Oaths of Supremacy and Allegiance, and appointing other Oaths*, before the said Governor, or Deputy-Governor of the said Corporation, for the Time being, who are hereby respectively authorized to administer the same ; and also the Oath in the Words, or to the Effect following, that is to say, *I A. B. do swear, that I will be faithful to the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, whereof I am a Member, and in all General Courts, when, and as often as I shall be present, will, according to the best of my Skill and Understanding, give my Advice, Counsel, and Assistance, for the Support and good Government of the said Corporation.* So help me God.

Provided nevertheless, that any Person or Persons, commonly called or known to be Quakers, having each Five Hundred Pounds or more, Interest or Share in the Capital Stock of the said Corporation, before they shall be capable of voting in any such General Court as aforesaid, shall and may instead of the Oaths hereby prescribed to be taken by the respective Members, having each Five Hundred Pounds or more, as aforesaid, before the said Governor, or Deputy-Governor, solemnly promise and declare, as in the Presence of God, in Words, or to the same Effect, (*mutatis mutandis*) with the said Oath last herein prescribed to be taken by the Members of the said Corporation, having Five Hundred Pounds or more, Interest or Share in the Capital Stock of the said Corporation, and shall severally subscribe the same, together with the Declaration appointed for such Dissenters as scruple to take Oaths, by another Act made in the first Year of our Reign, Entituled, *An Act for exempting their Majesties Protestant Subjects, dissenting from the Church of England, from the Penalties of certain Laws* ; which Declarations and Subscriptions, the said Governor and Deputy-Governor for the Time being, or either of them, are hereby impowered and required to take and administer. *And furthermore*, our Will and Pleasure is, and we do hereby, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, ordain and appoint, that the said Court of Directors shall have Power and Authority to administer an Oath to all the inferior Agents or Servants, that shall be employed in the Service of the said Corporation, for the faithful and due Execution of their several Places and Trusts in them reposed, in the Words, or to the Effect following, that is to say, *I A. B. being elected into the Office or Place of Treasurer, to the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, do swear, that I will be true and faithful to the said Governor and Company, and will faithfully and truly execute and discharge the said Office or Place of Treasurer, to the utmost of my Skill and Power.* So help me God. And the like Oath to the other Agents and Servants, *mutatis mutandis*.

And in case any Person hereby nominated, or hereafter to be elected, Go-

Oath of Electors.

Oath of Allegiance.

How administered.

Oath to the Company.

Proviso for Quakers.

Power to administer Oaths to Officers.

Oath to Officers.

Neglect or Refusal of Oaths.

Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Director, as aforesaid, shall for the Space of ten Days, after such Nomination or Election, neglect or refuse to take the respective Oaths hereby appointed to be taken as aforesaid, or shall refuse or neglect to take upon him, his, or their Offices, that then and in every such Case, the Office and Place of every such Person so neglecting or refusing, shall become vacant, and others be chosen in their Places by a General Court of the said Corporation. And we do hereby further will and appoint, that no Dividend shall at any Time be made by the said Governor and Company, save only out of the Interest, Profit, or Produce arising by, or out of the said Capital Stock or Fond, or by such Dealing, Buying or Selling, as is allowed by the said Act of Parliament, until Redemption by Parliament of the said yearly Fond of One Hundred Thousand Pounds; and that no Dividend whatsoever, shall at any Time be made without the Consent of the Members of the said Corporation, in a General Court, qualified to vote as aforesaid. ^{Dividends how made.} And we do hereby will and appoint, that the said Governor, or in his Absence the Deputy-Governor for the Time being, shall from Time to Time, and are hereby required, upon such Notice to be given as aforesaid, to summon and appoint four General Courts at least in every Year, whereof one to be in the Month of *September*, another in the Month of *December*, another in the Month of *April*, and another in the Month of *July*; and we do further will and appoint, that if at any Time or Times, there shall be a Failure of holding a General Court in any of the said Months, by the Default of the Governor, and Deputy-Governor, or either of them, that then, and so often, and in every such case, any three or more of the Directors of the said Corporation, shall and may summon and call a General Court, which shall meet and be holden in the Month next coming after the Month in which the same should have been holden, upon the Summons of the Governor or Deputy-Governor, as aforesaid. ^{Four General Courts every Year.} And ^{A General Court to be summoned at any Time on Demand.} moreover, we do by these Presents will, direct and appoint, that the said Governor, or in his Absence the Deputy-Governor, for the Time being, shall from Time to Time, upon Demand to be made by any Nine or more of the said Members, having each of them Five Hundred Pounds, or more, Interest or Share in the said Capital Stock, within Ten Days after such Demand, summon and call such General Courts to be held of the Members of the said Corporation qualified for Electors, as aforesaid, and in Default of the Governor, or Deputy-Governor, to summon and call such Court, it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Nine, or more Members, having each Five Hundred Pounds Stock, as aforesaid, upon ten Days Notice in Writing to be fixed upon the *Royal Exchange* in *London*, to summon and hold a General Court, and there to do and dispatch any Business relating to the Government or Affairs of the said Corporation, and to hear and debate any Complaint that shall be made against any Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Directors, for the Mismanagement of his, or their respective Offices. ^{Misdemeanor of Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Directors.} And if such Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Directors, shall not clear him or themselves of such Complaint, to the Satisfaction of the major Part of the Members of the said Corporation, in the said general Court assembled, that then within ten Days, another General Court shall be called and held, as aforesaid, of the Members of the said Corporation, qualified to vote, as aforesaid, ^E said,

said, *Finally* to determine the same by the Majority of their Votes, as aforesaid, who may remove, or displace all or any the said Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, for such Misdemeanors or Abuse of their Offices, and elect and choose others in his or their Rooms, in the same Manner, as the said Elections between the five and twentieth Day of *March*, and the five and twentieth Day of *April*, are herein before directed to be made. And in every case, where any Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Directors, shall happen to die, or be removed, or his Office shall otherwise become void before the Expiration of the Time for which he shall have been elected, the major Part of the Members of the said Corporation to be assembled in a General Court, and being qualified as aforesaid, shall and may elect and choose any other Member or Members of the said Corporation, qualified as aforesaid, into the Office of such Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Director, that shall so die, or be removed, or whose Office shall so become void, which Person so to be chosen shall continue in the said Office until the next usual Time hereby appointed for Election, and until others shall be duly chosen and sworn. *And* for the better ordering and managing the Affairs of the said Corporation, We do by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, grant unto the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Successors; *And* we do, by these Presents, will, authorize, and appoint, that the said Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, for the Time being, or any Thirteen or more of them, (of which the Governor, or Deputy-Governor to be always one) shall and may from Time to Time, and at all convenient Times, assemble and meet together at any convenient Place or Places, for the Direction and Management of the Affairs and Business of the said Corporation, and then and there to hold Courts of Directors for the Purposes aforesaid, and summon General Courts to meet as often as they shall see Cause. And that the said Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, or the major Part of them so assembled, (whereof the Governor or Deputy-Governor is to be always one) shall and may act according to such By-Laws, Constitutions, Orders, Rules, or Directions, as shall from Time to Time be made and given unto them, by the General Court of the said Corporation. And in all Cases where such By-Laws, Constitutions, Orders, Rules, or Directions, by or from the General Court shall be wanting, the said Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, or the major Part of them so assembled, (whereof the Governor or Deputy-Governor is to be always one) shall and may direct and manage all the Affairs and Business of the said Corporation, in the borrowing or receiving of Monies, and giving Security for the same, under the Common Seal of the said Corporation; and in their Dealing in Bills of Exchange, or the buying or selling of Bullion, Gold or Silver, or in selling any Goods, Wares, or Merchandizes whatsoever, which shall really, and *bona fide*, be left or deposited with the said Corporation, for Money lent or advanced thereon, and which shall not be redeemed at the Time agreed, or within three Months after, or in selling such Goods as shall or may be the Produce of Lands, purchased by the said Corporation, or in the lending or advancing any of the Monies of the said Corporation, and taking Pawns, or other Securities for the same. And to choose and appoint the Agents or Servants which shall from Time to Time be necessary to be employed in the Affairs or Business of the said Corporation,

In case of
 Death of Go-
 vernor, Depu-
 ty-Governor,
 or Directors.

How the Go-
 vernor, Depu-
 ty-Governor,
 and Directors
 shall act, and
 the Power gi-
 ven to them.

ration, and to allow and pay reasonable Salaries and Allowances to the said Agents and Servants respectively, and them or any of them from Time to Time to remove or displace, as they shall see Cause. And generally to act and do in all Matters and Things whatsoever, which by the said recited Act of Parliament shall or may be done, and in all Matters and Things whatsoever, which they shall judge necessary for the well ordering and managing of the said Corporation, and the Affairs thereof; and to do, enjoy, perform, and execute all the Powers, Authorities, Privileges, Acts, and Things, in Relation to the said Corporation, as fully to all Intents and Purposes, as if the same were done by the Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, or by a General Court of the same: *Subject* nevertheless, to such Restrictions, Limitations, Rules, or Appointments, as are contained in the said recited Act of Parliament, for, or concerning the Trade, Business, or Affairs of the said Corporation, or otherwise relating thereunto. *And we do* hereby Power to General Courts to make By-Laws. give full Power to all and every the said Members qualified for Electors, as aforesaid, in their General Courts or Assemblies, aforesaid, by Majority of their Votes, as aforesaid, to make and constitute such By-Laws and Ordinances, for and relating to the Affairs and Government of the said Corporation, and the imposing Mulcts and Amerciaments upon Offenders against the same, as to them shall seem meet, so that such By-Laws be not repugnant to the Laws of this our Kingdom, and be confirmed and approved, according to the Statutes in such Case made and provided. All which Mulcts and Amerciaments shall and may be received and recovered to the only Use Mulcts and Amerciaments shall be to the Use of the Company. and Behoof of the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, and their Successors, without any Account, or other Matter or Thing to be therefore rendered to Us, our Heirs or Successors. And also to allow such Sallaries or Allowances to the said Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors, as to them shall seem meet. *And we do* hereby General Courts to allow Salaries to the Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Directors. ordain and appoint, that the first General Court for the said Corporation shall be held within the Space of twenty eight Days next after the Date of these Presents. *Provided* always, and for the ascertaining and limiting how, and in what Manner, and under what Rules the said Capital Stock, and yearly Fond of One Hundred Day of first General Court. Directions for Assignment of the Stock and Fond. Thousand Pounds shall and may be assignable and assigned, transferrable and transferred, by such Person and Persons as shall from Time to Time have any Interest or Share in the same; we do hereby direct and appoint, that there shall be constantly kept in the publick Office of the said Governor and Company of the Bank of *England*, a Register, or Book or Books, wherein all Assignments and Transfers shall be entered. *And we do* hereby, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, pursuant, and according to the Power given unto Us by the said Act of Parliament, order, limit, direct, and appoint, that the Method and Manner of making all Assignments and Transfers of the said Capital Stock, and yearly Fond, or any Part thereof, shall be by an Entry in the said Book or Books, signed by the Party so assigning or Transferring, in the Words, or to the Effect following, *viz.* Memorandum, *That I A. B. this* Form of Transfer. *Day of* *in the Year of our Lord* *do Assign* *and Transfer* *of my Interest or Share in the Capital Stock and Fond of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, and all Benefit arising thereby, unto* *his Heirs and Assigns. Witness my Hand*

Or

By Letter of Attorney. Or in case the Person assigning be not personally present, then by an Entry in the said Book or Books, signed by some Person thereunto lawfully authorized, by Letter of Attorney, or Writing under Hand and Seal, attested by two or more Witnesses, in the Words, or to the Effect following, *viz.* Memorandum, *That I A. B. this* Day of *in the Year of our Lord* by *Virtue of* a Letter of Attorney, or Authority under the Hand and Seal of *Dated the* Day of *in the said Year* do in the Name, and on the behalf of the said Assign and Transfer of the Interest or Share of the said in the Capital Stock and Fond of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, and all Benefits arising thereby, unto his Heirs and Assigns, Witness my Hand

Acceptance. Under which Transfer the Person or Persons, Bodies Politick or Corporate, to whom such Assignment or Transfer shall be made, or some other Person by him or them lawfully authorized thereunto, shall sign his or their Name or Names, attesting that he or they do freely and voluntarily accept of the same. And that the Entry signed as aforesaid, and no other Way or Method, shall be the Manner and Method used in the Passing, Assigning, or Transferring the Interest or Share in the said Capital Stock or Fond, and such Transfer or Assignment shall be good and available, and convey the whole Estate and Interest of the Party Transferring, or ordering the same to be Transferred. *Provided* always, that any Person having any Share or Interest in the said Capital Stock or Fond, may dispose or devise the same, by his last Will and Testament, attested by three or more credible Witnesses. But however, that such Devisee shall not Transfer the same, or be intitled to receive any Dividend, until an Entry or Memorandum of so much of the said Will, as relates to the said Stock or Fond, be made in the Book or Books, or some other Book or Books, to be kept by the said Governor and Company for that Purpose. *And* we do hereby will and appoint, that the said Governor, or in his Absence the Deputy-Governor, shall not have any Vote in a general Court, or Courts of Directors, save where there shall happen to be an Equality, or equal Number of Votes. *Provided* nevertheless, that all Matters and Things which the said Governor, Deputy-Governor, or Directors, shall in manner as aforesaid, order and direct to be done by Sub-Committees, or other Persons appointed under them, shall and may (by Virtue of such Orders) be done by the said Sub-Committees, or other Persons so appointed. *And* we do for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant and declare, that these our Letters Patents, or the Inrollment thereof, shall be, in and by all Things valid, and effectual in the Law, according to the true Intent and Meaning of the same; and shall be taken, construed, and adjudged in the most favourable and beneficial Sense, for the best Advantage of the said Corporation, as well in our Courts of Record as elsewhere, notwithstanding any Non-recital, Mis-recital, Defect, Incertainty, or Imperfection in these our Letters Patents. *And* our Will and Pleasure is, that these Presents to the Governor and Company aforesaid, under the Great Seal of *England*, shall be in due Manner made and sealed without Fine or Fee, great or small, to Us in our Hanaper, or elsewhere to our Use therefore, any Ways to be rendred, paid

Form of Transfer by Letter of Attorney.

Deviseable by Will, attested by three Witnesses.

Entry of the Devise in the Company's Books.

Governor, or Deputy (in his Absence), not to vote in General Courts, unless in case of Equality of Votes.

Sub-Committees.

Non-obstante.

Without Fine in the Hanaper.

paid, or made. *And* we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, ^{Covenant to grant further Power.} covenant, grant and agree, to and with the said Governor and Company, and their Successors, that we, our Heirs and Successors, shall and will from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, upon the humble Suit and Request of the said Governor and Company, and their Successors, give and grant unto them, all such further and other Powers, Privileges, Authorities, Matters and Things, which we or they can or may lawfully grant, and as shall be reasonably advised and desired by the Council learned of the said Governor and Company for the Time being, and shall be approved by our Attorney, or Solicitor General, on our behalf. *In Witness* whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made Patents. *Witness* our selves at *Westminster*, the seven and twentieth Day of *July*, in the sixth Year of our Reign.

By Writ of Privy Seal,

Pigott.

*Intrat. int. Record. Domini Regis
Willielmi Tertii, infra Recept. Scac-
carii ss. remanen. in Officio Clerici
Thesaurarii al. Clerici Pellium de-
cimo die Junii, 1695. Annoq; Reg-
ni dicti Domini Regis septimo.*



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